

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for producing a 3-D image file. In a preferred embodiment, the 3-D image file is produced using a source including a set of graphics instructions. The source data is produced, for example, by translating a data set into graphics instructions by a translation application. The graphics instructions are then converted into movie file commands by a graphics converter. In a preferred embodiment, the graphics instructions are converted by a set of procedures which contain storage and display information for each of the graphics instructions. Each command corresponds to a specific graphics instructions, and contains information for instructing a display software application to display a characteristic of a 3-D image. The commands are then recorded in the output 3-D image file.